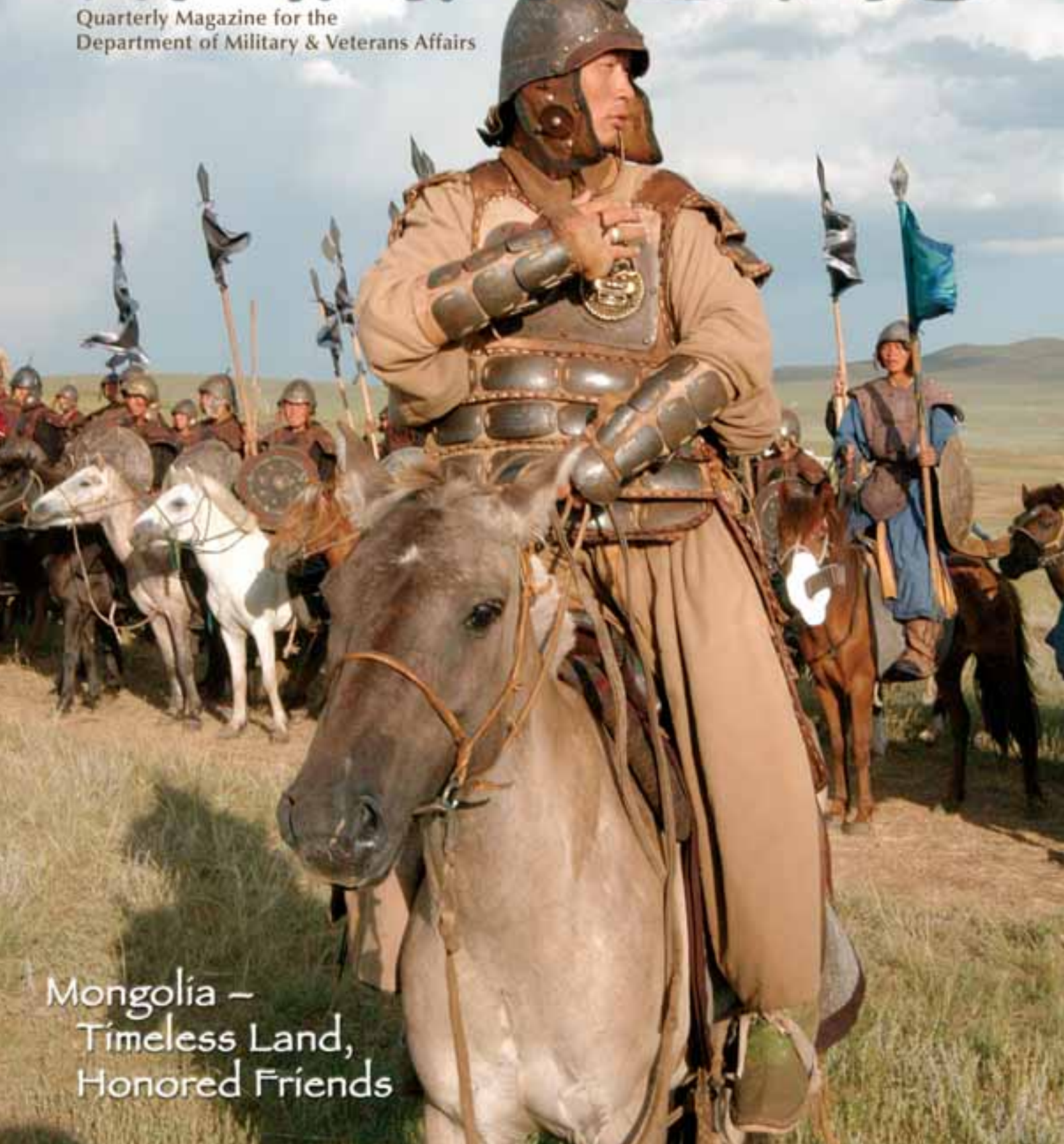


FALL 2006

WARRIORS

Quarterly Magazine for the
Department of Military & Veterans Affairs



Mongolia –
Timeless Land,
Honored Friends



***When you need to move
freight that's really...***

Big!



“Lynden offers dependable transportation, even in the harsh Alaskan climate. Our fleet includes, flatbeds, vans, stretch, lowboy, single- and double-drop trailers. We serve the oilfield, mining and construction industries throughout North America.”

www.shiptynden.com

1-888-596-3361

The Lynden Family of Companies

Innovative Transportation Solutions





Governor Frank H. Murkowski
Commander in Chief



Major General Craig E. Campbell
The Adjutant General, Alaska National Guard
& Commissioner of the DMVA

Mr. McHugh Pierre
DMVA Director of Communications

Major Michael L. Haller
Managing Editor / State Public Affairs Officer

Ms. Kalei Brooks
DMVA Public Information Officer

Ms. Christine Nangle

Mr. Ken Fankhauser

First Lieutenant Amy Bombassaro

Specialist Karima L. Mares

JFHQ-AK Public Affairs Specialists

Mr. James Littrell

DHS&EM Public Information Officer

Captain Kelly Mellard

First Lieutenant Bethany Ordway
168th Air Refueling Wing Public Affairs Officers

Captain Rebecca King

Staff Sergeant John Callahan

176th Wing Public Affairs Officer

Contributors

144th Airlift Squadron

Alaska State Troopers

Alaska Military Youth Academy

Missile Defense Agency

Bob Butcher

Senior Airman Anthony Nelson Jr., U.S. Air Force

Senior Airman Brian Ferguson, U.S. Air Force

Mark Farmer, Topcover.com

Jerry Walton, Alaska National Guard

Specialist April L. Dustin, Oregon National Guard

Colonel Robert Doehl, JFHQ-AK (Air)

Airman Nora Anton, 354th Public Affairs

Staff Sergeant Mac Metcalfe

3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry

Sergeant Jack Carlson III

49th Missile Defense Battalion (GMD)

Major David Kurlle

455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

Senior Airman Garrett Hothan

3rd Communications Squadron

Master Sergeant Kevin Johnson

Alaska Air National Guard

Specialist Aracells Oralles

Alaska Army National Guard

Technical Sergeant Julie Avey

168th Air Refueling Wing

Bob Ulin
Publisher

Susan Harrington
Editor

Gloria Schein
Art Director

Darrell George
Advertising Sales



AQP PUBLISHING INC.
America's Quality Publisher

8537 Corbin Dr., Anchorage, AK 99507
(907) 562-9300 • (866) 562-9300

WARRIORS

Quarterly Magazine for the Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs



Features:

| | |
|--|----|
| <i>Anatomy of a Patrol</i> | 14 |
| <i>Air National Guard Takes Lead</i> | 23 |
| <i>KC-135 Stratotanker's 50th Birthday</i> | 24 |

Departments:

| | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|----------------------------|----|
| Dispatches from the Front | 3 | ESGR | 18 |
| Where in the World | 4 | Family Support | 20 |
| Moving Forward | 6 | Who We Are | 21 |
| My Turn | 7 | Legacy | 22 |
| Veterans | 8 | Awards & Decorations | 26 |
| Joint Forces | 11 | Promotions | 27 |
| Homeland Security | 12 | Start of the Trail | 28 |
| Education | 16 | Training Schedule | 28 |



Timeless Land, Honored Friends. Traditions are valued among Mongolians, much as Alaskans value them. Khaan Quest 2006 brought together about 1,000 Soldiers and Airmen from seven nations – Mongolia, United States, Tonga, Fiji, India, Bangladesh and Thailand, at Five Hills Training Area. The historic uniforms of the ancient Mongolian cavalry are recognized across the world. Photo: Ken Fankhauser, DMVA Public Affairs



Leaping Into the Future. The C-17 Globemaster III is at the heart of a new unit that is getting off the ground. The Alaska Air National Guard's 176th Wing is gaining an opportunity to establish a new Associate Flying

Squadron with the active Air Force's 3rd Wing at Elmendorf Air Force Base within the next year. The 176th Wing continues its diverse missions operating C-130s and HH-60 helicopters. Echoing the traditions of the Air Force, the 176th Wing is more than 50 years old. According to officials, it has birthed numerous fighter, airlift, tanker and rescue squadrons throughout its unique history. The traditions continue.

Photo: Courtesy of 144th Airlift Squadron, Alaska Air National Guard

Concepts for section head logos derived from clipart provided by Alaska Native Knowledge Network. www.ankn.uaf.edu

Warriors is a commercial enterprise publication, produced in partnership, quarterly, by the State of Alaska, Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, PO Box 5800, Camp Denali, Ft. Richardson, Alaska 99505-5800, phone (907) 428-6031, fax 428-6035; and AQP Publishing Inc., 8537 Corbin Drive, Anchorage, Alaska 99507. Views and opinions expressed herein are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the Departments of the Army and Air Force, or the State of Alaska. All photos are Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs photos unless otherwise credited. Circulation: 5,000.

Distribution: **Warriors** is published for all current civilian employees, military members, veterans, and their families, of the Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs. It is distributed, free of charge, via mail and distribution, through each Division within the Department. It is also available at our Web site: www.ak-prepared.com/dmva.

HOW TO REACH US

Letters: Letters to the editor must be signed and include the writer's full name and mailing address. Letters should be brief and are subject to editing. **Submissions:** Print and visual submissions of general interest to our diverse civilian employees, Alaska National Guard military members,

veterans and families are invited and encouraged. Please send articles and photos with name, phone number, e-mail, complete mailing address and comments to:

Warriors Magazine
Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs
Office of Public Affairs
PO Box 5800, Camp Denali
Ft Richardson, AK 99505-5800
(907) 428-6031 / Fax 428-6035

to
A

We
Be
y

We
save
you
money
everyday
AAFES

**Come in today and
see what's new
your AAFES-BX/**

[illegible]



Dispatches from the Front...

Putting a Face on Potential Disaster: Guard Exercise Prepares for Avian Flu Outbreak

By Colonel Robert Doehl, Joint Forces Headquarters – Alaska (Air)

CAMP DENALI, Alaska... Getting the inside track on a potential emergency or disaster begins with study, preparation and exercises. With this in mind, the Joint Forces Headquarters Alaska staff conducted its avian flu exercise with determined energy.

The exercise was an opportunity for the Joint Headquarters, organized from separate Alaska Air and Army National Guard Headquarters elements, to develop procedures toward achieving full operational capabilities. The staff was tasked with responding to avian flu outbreaks in two areas of rural Alaska.

According to Brigadier General James Robinson, then Chief of Staff of the Joint Forces Headquarters, "In any disaster, it will take time for help to arrive. We have to be ready to take care of Alaskans without any assistance from Outside for at least the first 72 hours. This exercise demonstrated we have knowledge, initiative and ingenuity to accomplish the mission."

The inside of a disaster-oriented exercise is nearly always bound to be interesting. It commenced with increasing message traffic about the need to move stricken patients from remote villages. The Guard was tasked with continuing aeromedical evacuations and conducting quarantine operations. In order to address this disaster, the Joint Staff was convened. The Joint Staff provides expertise in the following areas to enable the Adjutant General to respond to such emergencies: Personnel, Intelligence, Current Operations, Logistics, Future Operations, Communications, Training and Evaluation, Financial Management and Public Affairs. In order to support the Joint Staff, the Joint Operations Center was also stood up. The Joint Operations Center consists of Joint Forces Headquarters team members who are

called upon outside of their normal duties in time of crisis.

The exercise presented a variety of challenges including how to overcome real world events. With a high number of Soldiers and Airmen currently deployed, the Joint Staff had to simulate calling in Guard forces from other states under the Emergency Management Assistance Compact. It also forced them to work through the challenges of providing for their pay, transportation, deployment, feeding and lodging once they arrived in Alaska. Because of the distance between villages needing assistance off of the road system, the Joint Staff needed to overcome what would be considered insurmountable logistical challenges anywhere else in the United States.

The Joint Staff and Joint Operations Center teams showed creativity in finding solutions. Just one of many examples: a Web page for Guard Knowledge Online with pertinent information that could be accessed from anywhere.

By the end of the exercise, participants had a new understanding of how the Alaska National Guard and other agencies can assist Alaskans in even the remotest regions in their times of need. Their abilities to respond to disaster are definitely polished up. ■

New Tax Law Aids Military Members

WASHINGTON, DC... President George W. Bush signed the Heroes Earned Retirement Opportunities (HERO) Act, which amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow service members to still exclude their military compensation from federal income tax, but also contribute to an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) while serving in a combat zone tax exclusion area.

Military compensation earned by members of the armed forces while serving in combat zone areas is excluded from federal income tax. Enlisted members and warrant officers exclude all such military compensation.

Commissioned officers exclude up to the maximum enlisted pay plus imminent danger pay for the months they serve in a combat zone tax exclusion area.

The HERO Act is retroactive to tax year 2004. Therefore, members who did not make an IRA contribution during 2004 or 2005, because they were not eligible due to combat zone tax exclusion, have until May 28, 2009, (three years from the date of enactment) to make a contribution to an IRA for those years. ■



Up Close and Personal.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld is shown a Ground-Based Interceptor by Brigadier General Patrick O'Reilly, program director for the Missile Defense Agency, during the Secretary's visit to the Missile Defense site on Fort Greely. The Missile Defense system is designed to provide coverage protecting the nation from accidental or intentional launches of intercontinental ballistic missiles.

Photo: Sergeant Jack Carlson III, 49th Missile Defense Battalion (GMD)

Where in the World

Pararescuemen Stars of Air Show

ELMENDORF AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska ... Four Alaska Air National Guard pararescuemen dropped into the Arctic Thunder Air Show with their Alaska state flag behind them in front of thousands of onlookers.

Alaska Air National Guardsmen Master Sergeant Michael Murphy, Master Sergeant Ben Walker, Technical Sergeant David Johnson and Staff Sergeant Roger Sparks, of the 212th Rescue Squadron, were the jump team.

"Watching the pararescuemen is a good opportunity for the community to see how they perform, and what they do when they risk their lives during rescues," said Christine Nangle, public affairs specialist with Joint Forces Headquarters of the Alaska National Guard.

Following the pararescuemen demonstration, onlookers got the opportunity to see a simulation of a refueling with the HC-130 Hercules rescue tanker, known as King Bird, and an HH-60 Pave Hawk, known as Jolly. More than a dozen Alaska Air National Guard members took part in the event.

The Alaska Army National Guard had a UH-60L Black Hawk helicopter on static display. Aircrew members were on hand to talk about membership with the Guard. ■

"Thanks, We Really Needed That Airdrop" Bagram Aircrew Drops Ammo to Soldiers in Firefight

By Major David Kurlle
455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan ... Major Jim Van Hoomissen's C-130 Hercules crew, all from the Alaska Air National Guard's 144th Airlift Squadron,

Mongolia



A 'Kodiak' Moment. The Missile Defense Agency conducted a flight test of a Ground-Based Interceptor designed to intercept and destroy a long-range ballistic missile as part of the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense element of the integrated Ballistic Missile Defense System. It was the first launch of a target missile from Kodiak Island. Data collected from the test is being used to improve the Ground-Based Midcourse Defense element and the overall Ballistic Missile Defense System. Photo: Courtesy of Missile Defense Agency



P-51 Mustang Leads the Pack. High precision aircraft for the ages is another way of looking at this extraordinary flight of aircraft. Among them: the World War II and Korean War veteran P-51 in the lead position, F-15 Strike Eagle in the left slot, the F-22 Raptor is slot right, and the A-10 Thunderbolt II, also known affectionately as the Warthog brings up the rear.

Photo: Mark Farmer, Topcover.com

Barrow
Point Hope
Eielson AFB
Kulis ANG Base
Camp Denali
Kodiak
Juneau
Edmonton



Ancient Armory? For the past 2,500 years Inupiat Eskimos have occupied the Tikeraq Peninsula, near what is modern-day Point Hope, Alaska. This ivrulik (semi-subterranean sod and whalebone house) was occupied until the mid-1960s. Additional ivruliks and house pits are discernable in the background. Prior to the community moving to avoid flooding from ocean storm surges, the Alaska Army National Guard Armory / Federal Scout Readiness Center was located roughly 250 yards east of this site.

Photo: Jerry Walton, Alaska Army National Guard

found out how valuable their contribution is to Operation Enduring Freedom.

Scheduled to airdrop a load of ammunition to Soldiers operating near a high-desert drop-zone, the crew flew twice over the area with no radio contact from the unit on the ground.

"We wanted to drop the supplies, so we kept trying to contact the drop zone," Van Hoomissen said. Airlift crews cannot conduct an airdrop unless they receive confirmation from the ground that someone is there to retrieve the cargo and the landing area is safe.

Re-supplying U.S. and Coalition

ground forces is a difficult proposition in Afghanistan.

Given some of the most rugged, mountainous terrain on Earth and a lack of roads – there are no 18-wheelers bringing supplies to Soldiers operating in the more remote parts of the country.

To make deliveries, the 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron (of which the 144th is part of in Afghanistan) utilizes one of the oldest airframes in the Air Force – the C-130 Hercules transport plane.

"(The C-130) is a truck with wings," said Van Hoomissen, a C-130 pilot, who



Delivering Water to Um Qasr.

Sergeant First Class Mike Grunst, 1/297th Infantry, was among those helping to return the land to the people in Iraq. According to Grunst, "We have definitely had some successes; we opened a major water plant for the town of Um Qasr, delivering potable water to the residents for the first time in 3-4 years. We're rebuilding the city hospital...and the school project in Safwan is progressing and should be complete by December."

Photo: Courtesy of Alaska National Guard

Washington, D.C.

Iraq Afghanistan



Airdrop Above Afghanistan. Improved Container Delivery System bundles float to the ground after being dropped from a C-130 Hercules August 26. The drop was made from almost 10,000 feet above mean sea level and was calculated using up-to-the-minute wind data relayed from two small dropsondes deployed 20 minutes earlier. The dropsondes calculate wind speed and relay the information back to the aircraft, helping to calculate the correct drop point. Photo: Senior Airman Brian Ferguson, U.S. Air Force



144th Airlift Hercules Becomes 'Afghan One.'

Afghanistan President Hamid Karzai took time to thank crew members of the Alaska Air National Guard's 144th Airlift Squadron who provided support to him recently. Doubling for an Afghan version of Air Force One, the 176th Wing's C-130 Hercules is a ready workhorse that ably gets into and out remote locations across the entire country. Squadron leaders continue to direct tactical airlift operations in support of Afghanistan and North Atlantic Treaty Organization military and civil support. A recent Ammo drop to U.S. forces during a fire fight resulted in saving lives of Soldiers.

Photo: Courtesy of 144th Airlift Squadron, Alaska Air National Guard



flies for Alaska Airlines in his civilian job.

Turning the aircraft in the direction of Bagram, where the Alaska crew is based, he tried contacting the Army's drop zone controller on a different radio frequency – and succeeded. That's when the situation changed.

"We couldn't contact anyone before because [the Soldiers] were engaged with the enemy," Van Hoomissen said. "We could tell from their voices they were engaged."

While Van Hoomissen talked on the radio, his co-pilot, First Lieutenant Scott Altenburg, flew the four-engine aircraft

and maneuvered it back toward the drop zone, avoiding numerous thunderstorms in the area. Aircraft and thunderstorms don't mix. An airdrop requires a steady stable platform for successful delivery.

"There was a firefight going on, but we were able to get clearance to drop from the drop zone controller," he said. "They wanted the stuff now."

The flight engineer, Technical Sergeant Christine Enselewski, monitored vital aircraft indicators like fuel and oxygen gauges while keeping an eye out for weather and other aircraft.

The task for the navigator,

Lieutenant Colonel Scott Lubin was to re-program the plane's self-contained navigation system computer to provide the pilots with navigation information, including directions back to the drop zone.

Loadmasters Senior Master Sergeant Eric Heiker and Master Sergeant Gordy Heinen began working feverishly in the plane's cargo compartment getting the cargo ready to drop.

"We were getting bits and pieces of what the guys on the flight deck were talking about," Heinen said. "We really needed to get this drop off."

Between the twists and turns of flying the aircraft back to the drop zone and the winds generated by the weather, working in the cargo compartment was rough. "We were getting tossed around a little bit," Heinen said.

To complicate the situation, A-10 Thunderbolt II ground-attack aircraft were assisting the Soldiers on the ground – firing their 30-mm cannons in the area where the C-130 crew needed to drop the cargo.

Using the Army's drop zone controller as a go-between, Van Hoomissen coordinated with the A-10 pilots, letting them know the C-130 was coming around for an airdrop.

After measuring the winds to determine where the six bundles of ammunition would fall under their parachutes, the crew pointed the plane's nose to a course that would take it over the drop zone.

At just the right moment, the containers of ammunition slid out the open ramp and cargo door of

the C-130 and drifted to the ground.

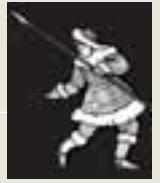
"To know that [the Soldiers] were actually engaged at the time says a lot," Heinen said. "There was a lot of satisfaction in that drop."

As the C-130 climbed and turned away from the drop zone after delivering the ammunition, Van Hoomissen recalls hearing the drop zone controller calling one more time on the radio: "Thanks, we really needed that airdrop." ■



Moving Forward

Governor Frank H. Murkowski
Commander in Chief



A Tribute to the Alaska National Guard

I have seen and respected the men and women of the Alaska National Guard in action for most of my life. As a kid growing up in Ketchikan, I heard stories about Muktuk Marston and watched the men who served with him train the next generation of Minutemen.

While Nancy and I raised our family, I traveled frequently across the state. I learned, firsthand, to appreciate the National Guard's commitment to service, including their numerous life-saving and search and rescue missions.

During my 26 years in public office, I have watched and helped the organization grow and receive new missions. Today, as your commander in chief, I have had the privilege to celebrate the National Guard's birthday with Soldiers and Airmen, send Alaskans off to war to fight for our freedom, and welcome Soldiers and Airmen home from these tours.

The Alaska National Guard is the cream of the crop, setting the standard for military relations; including our efforts at Fort Greely supporting missile defense and at Clear Air Force Station looking into the sky as our first layer of protection.

We have such amazing rescues as the Kaktovik winter power outage of 2005 and the most recent Cougar Ace crew rescue this summer. These amazing



Eight Stars of Gold on a Cake of Blue. An 8 foot x 4 foot x 2 layer cake fed more than 6,000 people at the Governor's Picnic. The picnic provided an opportunity for Alaskans to have a great time. Music, entertainment and food were the essentials for the day. Below: The National Guard is one of several key sponsors. Children were able to climb or crawl through the Guard's inflatable Confidence Course, meet aircrews, or try shooting a basketball with aid of "special effects" goggles that simulate drug usage – emphasizing the message to live a clean, sober lifestyle.

Photos: Major Mike Haller, DMVA Public Affairs

feats make the headlines nationwide on Web sites, television news outlets and newspapers.

We have weathered the storm of the Base Realignment and Closure Committee to face the fact of closing Kulis Air Force Base and gaining the C-17 mission. We are preparing to add about 200 jobs to the Air National Guard with the addition of the C-17, along with about \$250 million to the Alaska economy.

The Alaska National Guard is ready to move forward and achieve success with this foundation you have made in the past four years. Thank you for serving Alaska and the United States, and thank you for allowing me to serve as your commander in chief.

I salute you. ■





My Turn

Major General Craig E. Campbell
Adjutant General, Alaska National Guard
& Commissioner, Alaska Department of Military & Veterans Affairs



Much To Be Thankful For

We have much to be thankful for in Alaska and our nation.

Among the many things important to Alaska and our people is what we can only describe as a wonderful friendship with Mongolia that began through our State Partnership Program. We continue to sense the deepening relationship between Alaskans and Mongolians. In recent months, we've continued exercises, exchanges and sharing opportunities such as Khaan Quest 2006. These are the true marks of an active partnership determined to succeed.

The trust and honor we esteem and have for one another is at the heart of our friendship. We share many traditions and values. Members of our own Alaska National Guard continue to take pride in serving alongside Mongolian Forces in Iraq. There is much that binds us together.

We continue to look for new ways to work with each other, have cultural exchanges and share in how we each conduct not only military, but business and lifestyle activities.

On the homefront, Alaskans have closed ranks in response to recent disasters: the flooding in the Mat-Su Valley and the fire at Hooper Bay. Governor Frank H. Murkowski drew resources together to help the hundreds of our fellow Alaskans affected by these tough, challenging emergencies. We appreciate the fact that our Division of Homeland Security & Emergency Management teams were able to respond so quickly to the needs. Likewise, Constables of our Alaska State Defense Force and Soldiers and Airmen of Alaska National Guard joined in the response efforts. The help continues to flow. Our neighbors will need some of our special support for some time to come.

Our overseas commitments continue. We now have about 800 Soldiers and Airmen deployed to Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan. As units and individuals rotate home, we expect to see our current force assignments change.

We're expecting to send some Soldiers and Airmen to sustain support for border security operations in Arizona in the coming

year. The need for all of the states to share in this homeland defense mission is important. There are already many positive stories coming out of the southern border region since the National Guard stepped forward to help the Border Patrol.

Recently, the Alaska Military Youth Academy graduated its largest class so far, with more than 100 young Alaskans taking a turn for the better with their lives. The remarkable success of this program continues to shine.

While we're pointing out some important things that are changing lives and relationships – our Alaska Army National Guard continues to set a standard of excellence that is unequalled in our entire Alaska National Guard history. The Alaska Air National Guard is setting a good stride too. Alaska's sons and daughters continue to step forward in record numbers. They are enlisting at a rate equal to approximately one per day.

Entrance interviews reveal that it is more than just incentives, though clearly that helps. Willing, patriotic service remains at the top of the list of why people are stepping forward. They want and expect to be counted on during this time of war.

We've opened another Joint Forces Recruiting Office in the Fairbanks. What a great time to put out a newer, bigger "welcome" mat. We still need your referrals of friends, family and work associates.

Veterans' issues have been at the very top of Governor Murkowski's agenda during his service as our governor and commander in chief. We've made great progress with recognition of our Alaska Territorial Guard veterans. We've actually opened the first Alaska State Veterans & Pioneer Home in Palmer. We've taken leadership roles at every turn to advocate for Alaska's veterans and their families. As we increase in numbers of veterans – from among our own Alaska National Guard members and across our communities – the need to stand up and be counted upon continues.

Yes, there is much to be thankful for. ■

Showing Our True Colors – “Old Glory” Waves on Today, As In The Past

“I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”

...an unmistakable oath, a true call to citizens of a free, independent nation

The pledge is recited while at attention and saluting with the right hand over the heart. Adults and children, alike, in civilian dress remove their headdress. Non-citizens show respect by merely standing at attention. People in uniform will remain silent and render the military salute if outdoors (if indoors, at attention with their arms clasped at their sides). Military members in civilian patriotic and veteran organizations (U.S. military, firemen and police) may recite the pledge while at military salute.

For more information on the flag, go to: www.ak-prepared.com/dmva/flag





Veterans

Story & photos by Senior Airman Garrett Hothan, 3rd Communications Squadron

Veterans Find Their Way Home

The constant drum of rain didn't drown out the sounds of camaraderie of more than 150 veterans at Camp Carroll on Fort Richardson on August 18. A hearty crowd of volunteers worked hand-in-hand with the veterans to provide temporary relief and a means to wash away some of their doubts and worries during Stand Down.

Stand Down, a community-wide event designed to bring resources to our homeless and troubled veterans, received its first start in San Diego, Calif. The concept of Stand Down was brought to key leaders in Alaska by concerned community members. Anchorage quickly adopted the idea. Alaska's first Stand Down was put in motion back in 1993.

Art Robinson, Stand Down site manager, said the logistics of the event and its site were massive. A tent city stretched across the Mulcahy Baseball Stadium near Sullivan Arena.

"Electrical power was a problem back then," Robinson said. "A lot of effort was put into just keeping everything running."

Eagle Emerges. Volunteers from the Alaska Military Youth Academy watch as a rehabilitated eagle emerges from a crate opened by Brigadier General Tom Katkus, Assistant Adjutant General for Space & Missile Defense.



At the request of the Alaska Army National Guard, Stand Down has since moved to Camp Carroll.

"There is a lot more involvement with community organizations this year," said Anita Porter, Stand Down administrative assistant.

Historically, Stand Down offered a wide variety of benefits to the participating veterans.

"Having the better, permanent facilities located at Camp Carroll makes it easier for everyone," she said.

Veterans receive warm military clothing, medical treatment, legal advice and emotional well-being from the community and the volunteers during Stand Down.

"I want to give back to the community what I can," said Philip Ketterer, U.S. Navy veteran. "If I can make good use of what I receive here, I will. If I can't, I'll make sure that what I pick up at Stand Down will get a good home. The relationships that our community makes are special. It crosses the boundaries of civilian and the military veteran. What we give to our brothers comes directly from the heart and nowhere else. It's a bond within a bond."

In addition to what the veterans received, a rehabilitated eagle was released back into the wild thanks to the Bird Treatment and Learning Center. The eagle's release has been a tradition since 1998, symbolizing the safe return of our veteran warriors.

In closing the ceremony, Brigadier General Tom Katkus, Assistant Adjutant General for Space & Missile Defense, said Stand Down represents a kept promise.

"The promise was made to one another – to never leave one of our own behind on the battlefield," he said. ■



Warm Food and Smiles. Members of the Alaska Military Youth Academy, right, serve some of Alaskan's veterans during the annual Stand Down at Camp Carroll.



Say Aw. Technical Sergeant Jose Camacho, 3rd Dental Squadron, gives veteran Robert Lewis a dental check-up. If any veteran was determined to need medical attention, they were taken to the hospital for care.



Getting a Trim. Veteran Paul Paulsen receives a trim during Stand Down from Deana Doulgerakis, owner of Inspirations Hair and Nail Salon.



Thanks All Around. Governor Frank H. Murkowski took time, during his visit to Stand Down, to thank members of the 3rd Medical Group and the Alaska National Guard for their support of veterans.



Drawing Gear. Philip Ketterer, U.S. Navy veteran, looks through clothing and supplies donated to Stand Down to help ease the cold Alaskan winters.

SYSCO
Food Services
of Alaska



SYSCO Alaska is proud to have the honor of feeding our United States Troops

SYstems and **S**ervices
COmpany's philosophy is the same as it was over 40 years ago - a trusted supplier, providing food service customers with broad product lines of consistently high quality.

Our partnership with the United States Military goes far beyond our philosophy -

"We don't just sell groceries here at SYSCO. We deliver peace of mind."



SYSCO is an equal opportunity employer and proud employer of veterans.

(907) 977-5567
www.syscoseattle.com

Thanks to Tax Act Changes Alaska Veterans Gain New Home Possibilities



ANCHORAGE, Alaska... An increasing number of Alaska's veterans are able to qualify for the Alaska Veterans Mortgage Program (VMP), thanks to a provision in the tax reconciliation act signed into law earlier this year by President George W. Bush.

The Alaska Housing Finance Corporation (AHFC) offers eligible veterans low-interest-rate home loans. The program is funded through federal tax-exempt bond proceeds, approved by Alaska voters.

Until recently, federal law limited the program to veterans who entered active duty service prior to January 1, 1977, and who applied for a veteran's loan within 30 years of their discharge. As a result of this limitation, the number of veterans eligible to apply for a VMP loan decreased dramatically.

Under the new law, the pre-1977 requirement is eliminated and instead of having to apply for a mortgage within 30 years of discharge, veterans now have to apply within 25 years of discharge. The existing restriction on using the program to refinance a home mortgage was not changed.

According to AHFC Executive Director Daniel Fauske, "This restriction was unfair

"This is terrific news for our veterans, particularly those who have served in Iraq or Afghanistan and now are returning home to reunite with their families."

— Governor Frank H. Murkowski

to the men and women who have served since the end of the Vietnam War, including those serving today. I commend our congressional delegation for their persistent efforts to get this passed."

Senator Lisa Murkowski and Representative Don Young co-sponsored the original legislation that became part of the tax

reconciliation bill that was signed into law. Senator Ted Stevens has consistently been a strong supporter of amending the law to include post-Vietnam era vets.

"This is terrific news for our veterans, particularly those who have served in Iraq or Afghanistan and now are returning home to reunite with their families. I'm pleased that our newest vets will have the opportunity to benefit from the state's veterans mortgage program," said Governor Frank H. Murkowski. He lauded the AHFC and the Alaska congressional delegation for the accomplishment.

Fauske noted that a veteran who qualifies for the VMP program likely would also qualify for a VA Guaranteed Home Loan, which makes it possible to finance 100 percent of the reasonable value of the property. "A lower mortgage interest rate plus not having to make a down payment should make it a bit easier for our vets to buy a home. That's our goal." He recommends veterans check with their local lending institutions for details on available programs, or sign up for a free HomeChoice seminar offered by AHFC.

AHFC is a self-supporting public corporation with offices in 16 communities statewide. It provides financing for multi-family complexes, congregate facilities and single-family homes, with special loans for first-time home buyers, low- and moderate-income borrowers, veterans, teachers, nurses and those living in rural areas of the state. ■

To sign up for an AHFC HomeChoice seminar call

(907) 330-8437

or go to:

www.ahfc.us



Troops Conquer Khaan Quest 2006 Field Training Exercise

Alaskans Trained for UN Peacekeeping Missions

By Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Affairs

ULAANBAATAR, Mongolia...

About 30 Alaska National Guard Soldiers and Airmen who took part in the field training exercise Khaan Quest 2006, a multinational peace support operations exercise held in Mongolia, returned home to Alaska with UN training recognition certificates in hand.

Platoons from Bangladesh, Fiji, India, Mongolia, Thailand and Tonga, and National Guard units from Oregon and Alaska participated in the field training exercise where they went through six different UN peacekeeping scenarios.

The scenarios pitted the troops against situational role players who trained and tested the platoons in a range of operational tasks UN peacekeepers would undertake in real world circumstances. Situations ranged from manning a checkpoint and conducting foot patrols to establishing a relief aid distribution site and securing a fixed location.

The end goal in each of the training scenarios was to monitor and maintain the peace while providing security. Khaan Quest 2006 provided a venue for troops to improve interoperability and unity of effort.

"I think the exercise was an excellent opportunity to train in a different country with role players who spoke an unfamiliar language," said Captain Wayne Mitchell, the Alaska National Guard's logistics officer for the exercise from 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry in Juneau.

"It was an invaluable experience to interact with countries we could possibly work with during future peacekeeping missions," Mitchell added.

Major General Stephen D. Tom, Deputy Commanding General of U.S. Army Pacific, was on hand at the closing ceremony August 24, to congratulate all the platoons for their hard work. He also put their training in perspective.



On the Path of Ancients. Alaska National Guard Soldiers participating in Khaan Quest 2006, a United Nations peacekeeping exercise, climb to the top of a mountain overlooking Five Hills Training Center near Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. Private Jimmy Bates (left) and Sergeant Brenda Lutz (right), both from Anchorage, were among nearly 50 Alaskans who went to Mongolia to train and support the exercise.

Photo: Specialist April L. Dustin, Oregon National Guard

"As we conclude this exercise, a multinational UN mission is being formed to assist Southern Lebanon; it is possible perhaps that individuals or platoons trained during this Khaan Quest exercise may be asked to support that mission," Tom said. "If so, the lessons learned here will be put to good use supporting that mission and other UN peacekeeping operations around the world."

"The training exercise is of great importance to military cooperation and confidence between countries in the Asia-Pacific region," said M. Enkhbold, Prime Minister of Mongolia. "There is no doubt that this training has greatly contributed to improving cooperation for global security, confidence in peace support operations and development of the camaraderie among the Soldiers." ■

Culture and History. During the Khaan Quest 2006 opening ceremony on August 11, at Five Hills Training Center near Ulaanbaatar, a mock battle of fighting warriors on horses highlighted the rich history of Mongolia. Khaan Quest was a 15-day exercise designed to improve interoperability among multinational forces for UN peace support operations.

Photo: First Lieutenant Amy Bombassaro, Alaska National Guard



Homeland Security & Emergency Management

We've seen FIRE & RAIN Multiple Disasters Keep State Responders Busy



It Began With Matches. Children playing with matches started the fire in Hooper Bay that consumed the old school, the ANICA store and more than dozen homes on August. 3.

Photos: Courtesy of Alaska State Troopers



School Lost. The fire consumed almost 20 percent of the Western Alaska community.

Photos: Courtesy of Alaska State Troopers

By Jamie Littrell, DMVA Public Affairs

The end of summer is usually marked by state fairs and the start of football season, but August brought multiple disasters for Alaskans and the Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (DHS&EM).

On August 3, a massive fire started by children playing with matches broke out under the old school in the Western Alaskan community of Hooper Bay. Multiple fire response crews from neighboring communities, and from as far away as Nome, battled the raging inferno for numerous hours. The blaze consumed nearly 20 percent of the community including the old school, support buildings, teacher housing, the ANICA store and 14 homes that housed nearly 70 residents.

"The residents of Hooper Bay did their best with what they had to work with in fighting this fire," said David Liebersbach, the Director of DHS&EM. "Everybody who worked on fighting this fire did tremendous work to contain it and only lose what they did."

DHS&EM activated the State Emergency Coordination Center (SECC) to assist the community's Incident Management Team (IMT) in responding to the fire and meeting the immediate needs of those who were displaced.

Within two days of the fire being put out, Governor Frank H. Murkowski, Department of Military & Veterans Affairs Commissioner Major General Craig Campbell and Director Liebersbach visited Hooper Bay. During the trip Murkowski verbally declared the incident a state disaster and promised that all of Alaska's resources would

Electrical Lines Over Matanuska River. (Top) Flood waters caused many land slides and washed away large sections of ground, including the section beneath these Chugach Electrical Association power lines.

Parks Highway-Troublesome Creek. (Inset) Rushing flood waters washed out a section of the Parks Highway near Troublesome Creek. Traffic to Fairbanks was re-routed to the Glenn Highway for nearly a week.

Montana Creek Campground. Campers in the Mat-Su Borough were affected as rising waters invaded the Montana Creek Campground.

Photos: Courtesy of DHS&EM





be brought forward to assist the community in getting back on its feet.

"One of the main concerns was finding temporary housing for families who had their homes burned down," said Jim Butchart, DHS&EM's deputy director for emergency management. "The state made the offer of relocating residents to another community until permanent replacement housing could be constructed, but everybody chose to stay in the community, moving in with friends or relatives until we could find temporary housing units to send to Hooper Bay."

Temporary housing for the displaced residents is coming in the form of five ATCO trailers containing four sleeping rooms per trailer and eight additional modular housing units provided by Alutiiq. The trailers and housing units are being sent to Hooper Bay, along with large amounts of other donated items from across the state.

"The critical issue with barging out items and materials to Hooper Bay is we have to get them to the community before freeze up starts and barge traffic halts for the winter," Butchart said.

Numerous state agencies, partner organizations, and private sector businesses and volunteers are contributing to the effort to get life in Hooper Bay back to normal. The Alaska Army and Air National Guard, along with the Alaska State Defense Force, provided the use of the Hooper Bay Armory, along with Soldiers and Airmen for security support of emergency operations. The Department of Environmental Conservation, Village Safe Water, and CE2 Engineering have been working on testing the debris for any harmful remains and making sure the water supply around the affected area is safe; the Department of Transportation has been working on making sure the airport road, used for transferring materials into the community, can support heavy vehicle traffic; and the American Red Cross along with several non-profit organizations such as Samaritan's Purse, have been working on managing the large amounts of donated goods for the community.

Fire and water don't necessarily mix. While DHS&EM transitioned into the Recovery Phase of operations for Hooper Bay during the middle of August, teams additionally moved into the Response Phase for the Matanuska Susitna Borough and the City of Cordova after a low pressure system dumped several inches of rain on Southcentral Alaska over several days causing severe flooding.

"During the end of summer, everyone in Alaska expects some rain to fall," Liebersbach said. "This amount of rain was definitely out of the norm for this time of year and caused some major problems for folks out in the Valley."

Flooding affected a large area, damaging numerous residences and washing out sections of local roads, Alaska Railroad tracks, and part of the Parks Highway. DHS&EM staff worked with the Mat-Su and Cordova Emergency Operations Centers to assist them in dealing with any life-safety issues and coordinated with the Department of Transportation in getting roadways back open. Again, Murkowski paid a personal visit to the Mat-Su area, verbally declaring a state disaster and fast-tracking any state assistance for the affected areas.

DHS&EM Individual Assistance Program staff opened Disaster Assistance Centers in Hooper Bay, the Mat-Su Borough

and the City of Cordova to take in-person assistance applications.

They have also opened a toll-free 1-800 number for those who wish to apply for assistance and missed applying at the centers. That number is 1-800-921-3682. Additionally, DHS&EM recovery teams, along with representatives from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), will be visiting all three disaster areas conducting assessments and collecting data for possible federal disaster declarations. ■



Heavy Handed Help. Members of the Alaska National Guard and the Alaska State Defense Force worked shoulder-to-shoulder helping Mat-Su Valley neighbors with sandbagging homes, businesses and roadways during the recent flooding.

Photos: Master Sergeant Kevin Johnson, Alaska Air National Guard

Camp Shelby Preparation ANATOMY OF A PATROL



Dangerous Duty.

Soldiers from the 3rd Platoon, Alpha Company, 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry work through the challenges of searching for IEDs along a simulated patrol route at Camp Shelby, Mississippi. Private First Class Dale Boy Scout of Chevak, provides security (top) as a vehicle is searched. Private First Class David Nevers of Wasilla, (above) conducts a roadside search while Specialist Thomas Hopson of Barrow, (right) reports the incident to headquarters.





Attention to Details. Sergeant Issac Ukoidemabia of Anchorage, (upper right) conducts a search that yields more evidence indicating some of the passengers are "terrorists." Staff Sergeant Scott Wesierski of Barrow, (right) directs the platoon mission while ensuring his Soldiers are safe. IED trigger mechanisms (above) can include small radios, cell phones and other electronic equipment.

Story & photos by Staff Sergeant Mac Metcalfe, 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry, with Major Mike Haller, DMVA Public Affairs

CAMP SHELBY, Mississippi... The tough preparation work for deployments is part of the grist of soldiering. Members of the Alaska Army National Guard's 3rd Battalion, 297th Infantry have been running hard at their objectives for more than three months. Even before they departed for the grueling heat and humidity of Mississippi they were busy with small unit and individual training activities.

One of the primary elements of their training is developing techniques for searching for explosive devices that are often strewn along roadsides. The training at Camp Shelby has given them that look and touch.

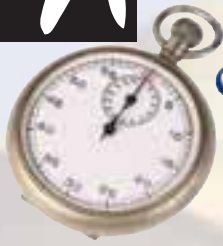
Soldiers use a variety of methods to work through the challenges of the enemy's threats. Dismounted patrols are a key element to the success of American Soldiers. It is tough repetitive training.

Patrols are trained to stop civilians, search vehicles, individuals and anything or anyone that could be carrying explosive devices or parts to make them including trigger mechanisms, a small radio, a cell phone and other electronic equipment.

Readiness – both personal and unit – are key elements to success for Soldiers. Being on your toes, aware of your environment and surroundings, is a significant part of what is important to the mission success. ■



Education



Every Fifteen Minutes **Mock Drill Reveals Alcohol Related Deaths Take Terrible Toll Among Youth**

Story & photos by Ken Fankhauser, DMVA Public Affairs

The day began easily enough. Driving past Chugiak High School, a passerby's eyes are drawn to the flashing red and blue lights, the shouting and the crowd. This was not another pep rally for the Friday night football game – it was a crime scene.

Two cars collided in the parking lot. There was a body lying on the hood of one of the cars. It looked as if the driver had flown through the windshield. There was a young girl running around screaming at the top of her lungs for help, and then there were the hundreds of students standing around watching and doing nothing.

That is exactly what the organizers of the Every Fifteen Minutes Program planned. Planners explain that every fifteen minutes a person dies of an alcohol related collision.

The mock crime scene was just the start of the emotionally charged program with students acting out the tragic parts. The crime scene instills teenagers with the dangerous consequences of drinking alcohol in a real life situation. This powerful program challenges students to think about drinking, personal safety and the responsibility of making mature decisions in their lives.

Back at the crime scene, ambulance crews finished loading the bloody beaten bodies into the vehicle. The ambulance speeds over to the football field where paramedics from the Alaska Air National Guard's 212th Rescue Squadron repel out of a HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter. After landing on the ground, they

quickly load up the students to take them to the hospital.

Moments later, students who were observing the entire production are headed back to class. The hallways are full of students – but they're quiet, contemplating what they've just "experienced." The message is starting to sink in.

Danger is still in the air. Just as students return to their rooms, and things seem to be settling down, there is a knock at the door. The grim reaper walks into classrooms all over the school and every fifteen minutes he takes one of the students away. This represents the percentage of teenagers around the nation who will die from an alcohol-related incident that day.

How sobering the moment as the next morning the entire student body attends a funeral service for 27 of their classmates who died. The gym is dark, with only a few lights on, and many students and parents are weeping. Their feelings are sincere.

The Army National Guard Mobile Events Team provided an Honor Guard for the "funeral." Sergeant Jeff Bogle, MET leader said, "This event is aimed at the kids, but I think we have all been affected somehow. We came to support this program, but I think we will all walk away with a life-long lesson."

Through efforts of police officers, educators and community volunteers, Every Fifteen Minutes reaches more than 20,000 students this year across the America. ■



**Youngsters Gain Insight
About Value of Their Lives.**
Anchorage Police and Fire Departments,
Anchorage School District, local hospitals,
the District Attorney's office and the Alaska
National Guard supported Every Fifteen
Minutes.

For more information, go to: www.everyfifteenminutes.com



It's All About Self-esteem, Confidence . . . And Fun, Too. Some of the "ladies" of the Alaska Military Youth Academy's 4th Platoon enjoyed their adventure training in the Lions Head Wilderness Area. The goal of the training was to develop self-esteem and self-confidence. More than 100 cadets recently graduated from the 22-week-long residential program at Camp Carroll. Photo: Kelly Donovan, Alaska Military Youth Academy



Youth Academy Garners Top Award. Senator Ted Stevens presented cadets of the Alaska Military Youth Academy with another top recognition for their outstanding efforts. The program, which graduates more than 200 youth annually, continues to earn every major education, community and special award or recognition for which they can be considered.

According to senior leaders, the Alaska program has earned the rare distinction of being the measuring stick upon which the rest of the country sets their standards.

Photo: Courtesy of Alaska Military Youth Academy

It's Time That Matters. Country Star Josh Gracin, a former American Idol finalist, took time to meet with Alaska Military Youth Academy cadets during one of his concerts at the Alaska State Fair in Palmer. Gracin, a former Marine, takes time and interest in the National Guard Youth Challenge programs as he appears across America. Photo: Courtesy of Alaska Military Youth Academy





Employer Support for the Guard and Reserve

Blue Angels Support ESGR



By Captain Kelly Mellard, 168th Air Refueling Wing

Twenty-seven Interior Alaska community leaders, employers of National Guard members, and the media took to the skies August 14, with the 168th Air Refueling Wing as they refueled the Navy Blue Angels aerial demonstration team. Two KC-135 tankers escorted the Blue Angels as they headed south after performing at the Arctic Thunder Air Show at Elmendorf Air Force Base. The Blue Angels' next stop was the 48th Annual Chicago Air & Water Show.

"How often do you get to be in the air with the Blue Angels and fly a mission with them?"

— Fairbanks Mayor Steve Thompson

Colonel John Griffin, 168th Air Refueling Wing commander, along with various group commanders, met and welcomed employers and community leaders prior to the safety and preflight briefings.



Rare Air. Community leaders got an unusual opportunity to fly alongside the Navy's premiere aerial demonstration team, the Blue Angels, as the Alaska Air National Guard's 168th Air Refueling Wing "pulled" them to Edmonton en route to the Lower-48.

Photo: Senior Airman Anthony Nelson Jr., U.S. Air Force

Photo: Technical Sergeant Julie Avey, 168th Air Refueling Wing



The 168th Air Refueling Wing coordinated the flight with the Employer Support of the Guard & Reserve and the Air Force Association to invite key Guard employers and community leaders, giving them a better understanding of the Air Guard mission and what their employees do when on drill or when activated.

The passenger list included Fairbanks Mayor Steve Thompson, who said, "It's great for the community to see what the Air Guard does and to be a little bit involved. How often do you get to be in the air with the Blue Angels and fly a mission with them?"

According to Dan Hoffman, Fairbanks chief of police, "I have an increased sense of awareness and appreciation for the mission that is being accomplished by the 168th Air Refueling Wing on a daily basis."

Hoffman went on to say, "If your mission is to increase employer awareness, appreciation and support for the Alaska Air National Guard, I'd say you're doing an outstanding job!"

After take-off from Eielson, the tankers rendezvoused with the Blue Angels and refueled them through Canada before turning around over Edmonton, Alberta. ■

Operation Santa Claus *50th Anniversary Schedule*

- *St. Marys*
- *Nenana /Anderson*
- *Emmonak*
- *Chalkytsik*
- *Fort Greely*
- *Galena*
- *Hooper Bay*
- *Little Diomed*








*Your Country
Your Community
Now ...
More Than Ever*

www.akanch.ang.af.mil

Anchorage
249-1282

Fairbanks
1-800-770-5387

www.ang.af.mil

ALASKA AIR NATIONAL GUARD



Family Support



Salmon Capital Honors Alaskans Guard Members Travel to Dillingham, Recognized for Their Service

By Christine Nangle, DMVA Public Affairs

DILLINGHAM, Alaska... Four Alaska National Guard members cast their lines into one of world's most premier fishing spots thanks to efforts from Dillingham residents. It was part of their military appreciation week. The Guard members – two from the Army Guard and two from the Air Guard – were treated to an all-expenses-paid trip to the salmon capital of the world.

Specialist Aracells Ovalles, of the Joint Forces Headquarters Medical Detachment, and Specialist Minaya Pericles, of Charlie Company, 3rd Battalion represented the Alaska Army National Guard. Senior Airman Renee Dixon, of the 211th Rescue Squadron, and Senior Airmen Kenneth Morris, of the 176th Security Forces Squadron, represented the Alaska Air National Guard.

"I had never fished for king salmon before we got there, and it was really nice," Dixon said. "We stayed with a host family. Everyone was so excited and happy that we were there; I felt very appreciated."

Along with the Guard members, eight other Alaska service members from all branches of the military attended.

"I enjoyed spending time with people from the different services and comparing experiences," Dixon said. "It was also enjoyable to talk and gather with the people from Dillingham."

Kat Gorman, with the Dillingham Chamber of Commerce, coordinated the trip between the military and the city. "I am very patriotic, and I believe in supporting our Soldiers in every way possible," Gorman said.

Guard members said this trip and the fabulous fishing was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. "It was great! We got to go fishing with the experts, and I caught three kings," said Ovalles with a smile. "It was an absolutely amazing trip."

The trip was Dillingham's way of showing appreciation for the military and honoring the sacrifices troops make daily.

"I think it [being in the military] is the most admirable thing someone could do," Gorman said. "They dedicate their life to serve our country."

The troops were flown into Dillingham by military aircraft and then took a charter flight to a fishing camp on the nearby Nushagak River where salmon were running rampant. ■



Fish On! Alaska Army National Guard Specialist Aracells Ovalles, (right) along with Marine Corps Lance Corporal Paul Barrett proudly show off the king salmon they caught during Dillingham's military appreciation week. Larry Csonka, (center) retired National Football League Hall of Fame legend and world-renowned angler, smiles after helping the troops land the big ones.

Photo: Courtesy of Specialist Aracells Ovalles, Alaska Army National Guard



Different Journeys. "My wife and I were out by the north end of the airfield when one of your HH-60s departed to the north," said Bob Butcher, a neighbor to Kulis Air National Guard Base. "The sky was gray, completely overcast, we could see the HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter clearly with a 757 in the distance." Photo: Bob Butcher



Who We Are...

What Does Veterans' Day Mean to You?

**Staff Sergeant
Matt Schrader**

*Pararescueman
212th Rescue Squadron*



"It's a day to step back to remember the sacrifices of those who have gone before us."

Judi Carr

DMVA Procurement Specialist



"I remember the day the AWACS aircraft crashed at Elmendorf 11 years ago. Veterans' Day helps me remember those people."

Ken Negus

DMVA Security Officer



"It's a day to respect and remember what others have done to bring us to where we are."

**Technical Sergeant
Tracy Glaze**

NCOIC of Formal Schools



"A time to remember those who are at war and those who have been at war and to learn not to make the same mistakes of our past."

**Lieutenant Colonel
Lance Jennings**

Air National Guard Chaplain



"I am one. So it's pride in serving your country, a united feeling among all veterans."

THINK ABOUT YOUR FUEL BILL. IMAGINE IF IT WAS 30% LESS.

"Volvo's fuel efficiency cut my fuel usage so much my fuel supplier accused me of being disloyal."



GET A VOLVO.

Volvo wheel loaders are the most fuel efficient, most productive loaders you can put on the job. They deliver (1) higher productivity, (2) higher performance, and (3) lower fuel costs.

IN THE WORLD —

Volvo, the best in construction equipment technology.

IN ALASKA —

CMI, the best sales and product support lineup.

IN YOUR CORNER —

The Winning Team.



Construction Machinery Industrial, LLC

| | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| Anchorage, Alaska (907) 562-3822 (907) 478-3822 | Fairbanks, Alaska (907) 455-9600 | Ketchikan, Alaska (907) 247-2228 | Juneau, Alaska (907) 780-4030 (888) 398-4030 | Wasilla, Alaska (907) 876-7591 |
|--|--|--|---|--|

Brian Elliott
Equipment Sales

Marty Gillet
Parts Manager





Legacy

Passages from *Soldiers of the Mists*

We are continuing to share passages from Alaska National Guard Historian Emeritus Cliff Salisbury's book, "Soldiers of the Mist." Major General John Schaeffer, the Adjutant General from 1986 to 1991 said, "It is important for present and future generations to understand the sacrifices our Minutemen and women have always made for Alaska." Our Legacy...

BETWEEN THE WARS – PART I

As the twilight of an era set in across the nation following the great war, social consciousness grew in the gap of time between the distant battlefields and revisionist historian accounts of the conflict.

As Americans pondered those triple devils of blame, guilt and profit, they sought to rid themselves of those distractions by launching their generation into that wonderful madness called the Roaring Twenties.

Not so in Alaska. The frontier population rolled up its sleeves, logged and returned to the mines and fishing boats. The construction gangs of the Alaska railroad headed north and south towards the little river town of Nenana where the golden spike would be driven in 1923.

Alaska was still Alaska. The gold was still there for the digging, vast coal deposits could be found and the salmon still ran by the millions. There was the talk of liquid black gold seeping to the surface of Katalla and in the Arctic, portentously marking the course of Alaska's future.

Let the gangsters control Chicago. Let them dance the night away or become members of the Lost Generation. Alaskans had better things to do than feel guilty, become flappers or to speculate in the stock market. A vibrant frontier society set to work building a territory towards that day it could proclaim statehood and the citizen rights and responsibilities that would accompany that coveted status.

Pilots brought surplus Jennies, still in their crates from the government, put them together with the help of backstreet mechanics and taught themselves to fly the most dangerous skies in the world. Those who were successful created the legend of the Alaska bush pilot.

Co-partners with the men who built between the wars were the pioneer

women. Skimpy flapper dresses were not as evident on the Last Frontier as pants and flannel shirts. Instead of rolling silk stockings down below the knees, they rolled their sleeves up above the elbows and set to work. Their bobbed hair was for a practical reason, not for style. They were hard working women who matched the men who matched the mountains. Down the road 50 years, their granddaughters would join the National Guard and learn to shoot and march with the best of them.

Alaskans never forgot their military heritage. The fourth of July parades in the small towns throughout the Territory continued to be the social highlight of the year. Home Guard veterans became local leaders in Alaska for a decade or more. The '20s and '30s were lean years for the military services as isolationism stalked the land, but in Alaska the Guard and Militia dream never completely dissolved. The minutemen simply stepped back into the mists to await a more opportune moment.

The Home Guard Militia continued to exist in various forms for some time following the conclusion of World War I. Some units disbanded almost immediately while others continued to drill. The Cordova unit under Captain Calvin C. Hazlet held on for years after most other units had gone. Many of the units began to die from lack of attendance. The unit at Eagle got down to just seven members before it disbanded. Many members, not unlike the Roman general Cincinnatus, simply returned to civilian life once the danger of war had passed.

Mr. Charles W. Bush, manager of Brown and Hawkins Outfitters, wrote to Governor Riggs from Anchorage on January 15, 1919: "It is impossible to get the boys out to drill since the war ended. I see no reason to continue paying rent

for Robard's Hall. If there has been any rule pertaining to the Home Guards please advise."

G.F. Cramer, secretary to the governor, corresponded with nearly every home unit concerning bills against them that continued to pour into Juneau. The White Pass and Yukon Railroad sent a bill for \$53.20 against the territory for freight charges on three boxes of rifles consigned to the governor himself for the unit in Fairbanks. Bills came in from lumber companies and the federal government.

Next Legacy installment from Soldiers of the Mists series: Between the Wars – Part II.

Soldiers of the Mists was published by Pictorial Histories Publishing of Missoula, Montana, March 1992. It is available through fine bookstores throughout Alaska and online.

Air National Guard Takes Lead In Rescuing 22 From Listing Ship

By Major Mike Haller, DMVA Public Affairs,
with Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Affairs



ADAK, Alaska...When the Cougar Ace, a container ship carrying 22 crew members and nearly 5,000 automobiles, got into trouble more than 200 miles south of Adak, rescue seemed nearly impossible.

The giant ship began listing after an encounter with 10-foot waves and what turned out to be mechanical problems. In fact, it turned nearly 90 degrees onto its side – an extremely rare incident that ships are not likely to survive. All the more necessity for rescue.

The rescue mission began when the Coast Guard received an SOS from the crew of the Cougar Ace late evening, July 23. After initial contact with the ship, it became clear that there were no cutters within easy distance of the vessel. Coast Guard Air Station Kodiak was too far for the Coast Guard HH-60 helicopters to operate from – given their inability to do aerial refueling.

The Alaska National Guard's Rescue Coordination Center, at Camp Denali, was contacted at about 8:45 a.m., July 24, with a request to assist the Coast Guard with the mission.

Two Alaska Air National Guard HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopters, from the 210th Rescue Squadron, two HC-130 Hercules rescue tankers from the 211th Rescue Squadron, one C-130H Hercules from the 144th Airlift Squadron and about a dozen pararescuemen from the 212th Rescue Squadron were immediately dispatched.

According to officials, the purpose of the 144th's C-130 was to provide more platforms in the area, in part, not knowing the potential for crew injuries, ship damage or possible necessity to quickly medevac patients to Anchorage. It turned out to be an excellent decision.

Words could scarcely describe what greeted aircrews when they arrived on-scene July 24. The ship was virtually on its side.

According to Rescue Coordination Center controllers, at Camp Denali, it took more than an hour to get the crew off the ship. The two Pave Hawk helicopters and a Coast Guard Jay Hawk helicopter transported the rescued crew members to Adak, about 230 miles away.

Pararescuemen examined the Cougar Ace crew. An injured sailor, along with an interpreter, were taken aboard the 211th Rescue Squadron's HC-130 rescue tanker and flown to Anchorage for hospitalization.

After a night of rest, the remaining 20 weary Cougar Ace crew members were taken aboard the C-130H Hercules and flown to Ted Stevens Anchorage International Airport, adjacent to Kulik Air National Guard Base. ■

Rescue Work Horses. Members of the Alaska Air National Guard gave tours on July 28 of an HH-60 Pave Hawk helicopter and HC-130 refueling tanker to Captain Hirotooshi Tateyama, (pink shirt) and Captain Hidetoshi Ito, (yellow jacket), representatives from Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, the owner of the Cougar Ace.

Photo: Ken Fankhauser, DMVA Public Affairs



Hard Work and Appreciation.

Captain Hirotooshi Tateyama, (right) and Captain Hidetoshi Ito, (center), representatives from Mitsui O.S.K. Lines, the owner of the Cougar Ace, met on July 28, with some of the members of the Alaska Air National Guard who assisted with the July 24 rescue of 22 sailors from the listing ship.

Photo: Kalei Brooks, DMVA Public Affairs

KC-135 STRATOTANKER'S 50TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED

20th Anniversary of Alaska Air National Guard's 168th Air Refueling Wing



By Airman Nora Anton, 354th Fighter Wing Public Affairs
Photo by Mark Farmer, Topcover.com

EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, Alaska... The Air National Guard's farthest north Tanker Wing celebrated the 50th birthday of the KC-135 Stratotanker during a recent reception.

The celebration, held at the 168th Air Refueling Wing's hangar, honored the Stratotanker as the premier refueling aircraft in the Air Force's heritage. Though its original mission was to refuel long-range bombers, tankers sustain routine airflow for the majority of America's Air Force.

The 168th Air Refueling Wing kicked off the celebration with two orientation flights for Airmen from the tanker and fighter teams. A 50th birthday reception showcased new nose art for one of the tankers: an eagle flexing its wing.

Developed from its predecessor, the Boeing Dash 80, the KC-135 was the first tanker designed for aerial refueling.

"The Stratotanker changed the way aerial conflicts were fought in the Vietnam War and Operation Desert Storm," said Lieutenant Colonel Todd Mackinaw, 168th Air Refueling Squadron commander. "The aircraft has contributed to the success of other operations in the past half-century by consistently refueling bomber, fighter, cargo and reconnaissance aircraft of U.S. and allied forces. Stratotankers dispense an average of 19 million pounds of fuel per month to U.S. military aircraft."

Although the aircraft are known primarily for aerial refueling, the KC-135s are also used as flying command posts, personnel and cargo transports and aero medical evacuation aircraft. They supported recovery efforts of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita and other humanitarian relief missions.

"The future of the airplane is bright," said Colonel John Griffin, 168th Air Refueling Wing commander, at the birthday reception. "We're going to continue to deliver air superiority, global reach, battle space intelligence and constant vigilance. It's a total package and adds up to our air dominance, and you are a very big part of it in this wing. We are delivering that capability."

Not only is it the 50th birthday of the Stratotanker, but the 20th Anniversary of the Alaska Air National Guard's 168th Air Refueling Wing. The unit originally began as a separate flying squadron of the Air Guard's 176th Wing at Kulis Air National Guard Base before moving north to Eielson Air Force Base.



Keeping a Close Watch. Mongolian Forces secure 168th Air Refueling Wing's KC-135R Stratotanker during a visit to Ulaanbaatar earlier this year. Mongolian Forces and Soldiers and Airmen of the Alaska National Guard routinely train and work closely together.
Photo: Courtesy of Alaska Air National Guard

Stratotankers have been part of Eielson's heritage for more than 45 years. The tankers fulfill many missions at Eielson; essentially, they serve as an "air-bridge," meaning they refuel combat and mobility aircraft to and from the fight. Eielson is in an extremely advantageous location, Mackinaw explained.

One of the more notable operations the KC-135 continues is Noble Eagle, said Chief Master Sergeant Todd Cook, 168th Air Refueling Squadron's chief boom operator. Operation Noble Eagle has its roots in the events of September 11, 2001. In Alaska that morning, the Guard's tankers launched to refuel F-15 Strike Eagles that intercepted commercial aircraft and escorted them to White Horse, Yukon Territory. Nobel Eagle activities continue today in the defense of North American airspace.

The Air Force's frequent reliance on the 168th Air Refueling Wing is a tribute to the skill and experience of the wing's maintainers and aircrews alike. "The maintainers have been here a long time, they know the guts of that plane inside and out, so we get asked to try a lot of experimental equipment," Mackinaw said.

"The KC-135 is much more capable now than it was 50 years ago, as far as engines, avionics, communications and aviation-safety equipment are concerned," said Lieutenant Colonel John Hilgenbrink, 168th Air Refueling Wing Operations Support Flight commander.

"It is a really old airplane, but it was so well-built to begin with and so well-maintained that it still does a great job," Mackinaw added. ■

UNITED ROAD

NATIONWIDE VEHICLE TRANSPORTATION

**The Nation's Largest
Transporter of Privately
Owned Vehicles**

- FREE QUOTE • LOW PRICES
- DOOR-TO-DOOR SERVICE
- OPEN & CLOSED CARRIERS
- FULLY INSURED & BONDED
- RELIABLE ON-TIME DELIVERY



All Military—Call for a
5% Discount
CODE W2006

www.vehicletransportusa.com

TOLL FREE 800-354-6007

GET OUT OF LINE



Now you don't have to wait in line for government services and information because now the government is officially online, at **FirstGov.gov**. In an instant, you can print out tax and Social Security forms you used to wait in line for. You'll also find passport and student aid applications and more. **FirstGov.gov**. Lose the wait.

FirstGov.gov

The official web portal of the Federal Government

For government information by phone, call 1-800-FED-INFO (1-800-353-4636).

A public service message from the U.S. General Services Administration.

unitech of alaska

FULL LINE OF
ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTS
AND EQUIPMENT

Duck Ponds
Portable Tanks
Filtration
Solidifiers
Spill Packs
Pit & Berm Liners
Chemical Sorbents
Industrial Supplies
Geomembranes
Skimmers
Full Line of Sorbents
Barrels & Drums
Containment Boon

2130 E. Dimond • Anchorage, AK 99507

Unitech@alaska.com

Phone: (907) 349-5142

Toll Free: 800-649-5859



Awards • Decorations • Promotions

Legion of Merit



Brig Gen James Robinson . . . JFHQ-AK (Air)
COL Justine Emerson . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)

Meritorious Service Medal



MSG Charles Bohling . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)
SMSgt Janet Myers . . . JFHQ-AK (Air)
MSgt Paul Walsh . . . 103rd CST
Lt Col Denise A. Smart . . . 168th MDG
Maj Alvin D. Rice . . . 168th ARS
Maj Stephanie C. Rowland . . . 168th OSF
Maj Douglas W. Bradbury . . . 168th ARS
SMSgt Pamela G. Cox . . . 168th OSF
CMSgt Vincent A. Foran . . . 168th ARW
MSgt Shaun B. Gregersen . . . 168th MOF
TSGt Mark W. Lovejoy . . . 168th CF
MSgt Tina A. Rabjohns . . . 168th CF
MSgt Fresia J. Stalker . . . 168th MXG
TSGt Mark W. Lovejoy . . . 168th CF
Maj Patricia A. Pettine . . . 168th MSG
Maj Douglas Bradbury . . . 168th ARS
Maj Stephanie Rowland . . . 168th OSF
SMSgt Pamela Cox . . . 168th OSF
SMSgt Ronald L. Grether . . . 176th ACS
MSgt Mark A. Moraes . . . 176th AMXS
Maj Renee S. Blake . . . 176th LRS
Maj Christopher T. Borger . . . 176th LRS
Maj John P. Harrington . . . 176th LRS

MSgt Joann Lee . . . 176th MSF
SMSgt Christopher M. Coshier . . . 176th MXS
SMSgt Jeffrey M. Beelmann . . . 176th SFS
CMSgt John W. Wheeler . . . 176th WG
CMSgt Robert M. Garger . . . 210th RQS
MSgt William S. Goodwin . . . 210th RQS
Lt Col Thaddeus J. Kolwicz . . . 213th SWS

Army Commendation Medal



SFC Allen Hulse . . . 103rd CST

Air Force Commendation Medal



MSgt Faith M. Worthen . . . 168th LRS
MSgt Christina J. Wylie . . . 168th OSF
MSgt Keith J. Henrys . . . 168th OSF
TSGt John W. Gaikowski III . . . 168th CF
TSGt Kelly K. Shewfelt . . . 168th MSF
TSGt Heather Daviddamm . . . 168th MSF
1Lt Leilani Frazier . . . 168th MSF
MSgt Faith Worthen . . . 168th LRS
MSgt Christina Wylie . . . 168th OSF
MSgt Keith Henrys . . . 168th ARS
TSGt Mark W. Cooper li . . . 176th ACS
TSGt Carlos Gonzalez . . . 176th ACS
MSgt David G. Bridenbaugh . . . 176th MXS
MSgt Robby D. Phillips . . . 206th CBCS
TSGt Steven McDonald . . . 213th SWS

Army Achievement Medal



SGT Isaac Ukoidemabia . . . 1st Bn

PFC Thomas Hopson . . . 1st Bn
PV2 Thomas Olanna . . . 1st Bn
SPC Jason Binder . . . Med Det
PFC Alex Cozzetti . . . Med Det
SPC Tina Lua . . . Med Det

Air Force Achievement Medal



TSgt Michael J. Travis . . . 168th LRS
TSgt Kenneth S. Lane . . . 168th MXS
SSgt Marlan L. Currier . . . 168th CF
SSgt Diminian P. Chagnon . . . 168th CF
SSgt Pablo S. Montes . . . 168th CF
SrA Cara E. Bailey . . . 168th MSG
SrA Nathan W. Alonzo . . . 168th CF
TSgt Michael Travis . . . 168th LRS
MSgt Richard V. Lewis . . . 176th AMXS
SSgt Kitty E. Greene . . . 176th LRS
TSgt Brian L. Johnson . . . 176th LRS
MSgt Peter J. Pratt . . . 176th LRS
SrA Matthew T. Workman . . . 176th LRS
MSgt Shawn P. Arnzen . . . 176th MXS
TSgt James B. Brewer . . . 176th MXS
SrA Ryan D. Rabon . . . 176th SVF

Alaska Legion of Merit



Brig Gen James Robinson . . . JFHQ-AK (Air)
CMSgt Vincent Foran . . . 168th WG
CMSgt John Wh . . . 176th WG

Alaska Distinguished Service

RETIREMENTS

Col Arne Moe . . . 168th ARW
MSgt Shaun B. Gregersen . . . 168th MOF
Kevin G. Anderson . . . 168th MXS
Donna J. Ostler . . . 168th MDG
Warren R. Wright . . . 168th MXS
CMSgt Rachel E. Henrys . . . 168th MDG
TSgt Michelle A. Sippy . . . 168th LRS
TSgt Mark W. Lovejoy . . . 168th CF
CW3 Randall Johnson . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)
SFC Peter Larkin . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)

MSG Fuaau Mauga . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)
MSG Myong Cape . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)
COL Justine Emerson . . . JFHQ-AK (Army)
SSG Inmon Pitts . . . 207th Bde
SSG Frank Byerly . . . 207th Avn
SSG Gerald Mack . . . 207th Avn
CW4 David Head . . . 207th Avn
CW4 Harry James . . . 207th Avn
SSG Richard Togiak Sr. . . 1st Bn
1SG Walter Lewis . . . 2nd Bn
SFC Robert Mandell . . . 2nd Bn

SFC Ferdinand Cleveland . . . 2nd Bn
SSG Jimmy Paul . . . 2nd Bn
SSG Harry Nevak . . . 2nd Bn
SGT John Carl . . . 2nd Bn
MSG Steven Otnes . . . 3rd Bn
CSM Barbara Zanders . . . 49th MDB
SFC Teresa Farnum . . . 49th MDB
MSG Manfred Colley . . . RRD
SGT Jo Ann Malamute . . . Med Det

PROMOTIONS

Lieutenant Colonel

Timothy Trefts168th ARS
Douglas Bradbury168th ARS
Bobby Crenshaw168th MSG
Benjamin Baker168th MXG
Alvin Rice168th ARS
Kevin Kenaston168th MOF
Paul Vanderweide176th WG
Ray KellyMed Det

Major

John Morse176th WG
Karl Westurlund210th RQS

Captain

Ryan King168th ARW
Melissa Jackson168th ARW
Shad Schoppert176th CES
Tina Wagendorf176th MDG

First Lieutenant

Stephen Akins168th ARW
Brittany Nidiffer168th AMXS
Amy Wilson176th STF

Second Lieutenant

Justin Christiansen168th STU FLT

Chief Warrant Officer Four

John CuzzoceroJFHQ-AK (Army)

Sergeant Major

Pamela Harrington297th Spt Bn

Chief Master Sergeant

Michael Paulsen176th AMXS
Jeffrey Beelman176th SFS

Senior Master Sergeant

Duncan Edwards168th MXG
Robert Fine168th AMXS
Timothy Rogers176th AMXS
Jack Wagner Jr.176th AMXS
John Hutwagner176th MXS
Charles Wright210th RQS, Det 1

Sergeant First Class

Richard Beck1st Bn

Master Sergeant (E-7)

Tracy J. Stephens168th MSG
Robert E. Stavang168th MXS
Shannon D. Hanks168th OG
John Gaikowski168th CF
Javier Hinojosa168th AMXS
Scott Stewart168th MSF
Byron Braselton168th SFS

Jon Molt176th APF
Ryan Voigt176th MDG
Chad Demro176th CF
Heather Pineiro176th ACS
Patrick Bills176th MXS
Richard Fitzwater176th MXS
Edward Kenna176th MXS
Kim Groat176th MDG
Jonathan Davis212th RQS
Chad Parsons213th SWS
Gary Brock213th SWS

Staff Sergeant (E-6)

John GibsonJFHQ-AK (Army)
Eduardo PrietoJFHQ-AK (Army)
Shawn Aubrecht49th MDB
Russell Craig49th MDB
John Flood49th MDB
Stephen Mich49th MDB
Jose Peralta49th MDB
Eric Wood49th MDB
Stephen Young49th MDB
Diane Singh207th Avn
Duane Middleton297th Spt Bn
William BeebeRRD

Technical Sergeant

Pablo S. Montes168th CF
Jessup J Olson168th OSF
Kaleo Vicente168th SFS
Sean Tucker168th MXS
Debora Brekkemcgee168th SFS
Rebecca Grammerdonker168th LRS
Sean Tucker168th MXS


Pablo Montes168th CF
Kaleo Vicente168th SFS
Jessup Olson168th OSF
Sharon M. McCool168th OSF
Marlan L. Currier Jr.168th CF
Jalance M. Kent168th MXS
Jennifer L. Hartwig168th MXG
James Gengler168th MXS
Gregory Schmidt213th SWS
Steven Roberts213th SWS
Mark Casadei213th SWS

Sergeant

Steven Woolsey207th Bde
Jeremy Curtis49th MDB
Henry Dehling49th MDB
Lisa Druga49th MDB
Melissa Gradeless49th MDB
Karen Hurst49th MDB
Duane Ostrowski49th MDB
Seth Paul49th MDB
Jason Stolz49th MDB
Gary Messier1st Bn
Brian Christman3rd Bn

Staff Sergeant

Lynn Kerr168th AMXS
Corrie L. Elmes168th ARS
Douglas J. Sams168th SFS
Stacie Lancasterkits168 MDG
Christopher Gyden168th CF
Diminian Chagnon168th CF
Monte Rosenquist168th MXS
Sara Kerr168th AMXS



NOW APPEARING
Alaska National Guard
Shows Up On
"Big Screen"

Pride of service is evident in an important new film about the National Guard. It is a short film produced for the National Guard by American Rogue Films and is playing at theatres across North America.

The film company traveled throughout the nation, including Alaska, to capture the experience of America's National Guard.

Of course it cannot compare to seeing members of our own Alaska National Guard (flying or track driving) spread 30 feet across a movie screen.

One way or another, some of our Alaska National Guard members are going to be famous.

See a preview at www.americanrogue.com (Citizen Soldiers).



Start of the Trail

Welcome our newest members & employees

168th Air Refueling Wing

Leilani Frazier
Cody Nelson
John Osborne
Megan Binkley
Kylee Carr
Jessica Hill
Steven McDonald
Johnny Polanco
Eric Schwalber
Nicholas Sgalitzer
Garrett Brown
Matthew Richardson
John Griffin
Justin Stuart
James Hudnall
Michael Fewell
LaToya Jackson
Jake Hudson
Brian Killion
Mary Evans
Yolanda Thomas-King
Yolanda Thom
Philip Nelson
Galen Isaac
Michael Nash
Glenn Towle
Christopher Davis

Corey Gourd
Raye Simmons
Stephen Fuller
William Crowder
David St. Laurent
Shaun Loeffler

176th Wing

Justin Holt
Nathan Grilliot
Joshua Armstrong
Brian Belcher
Charles Rohe
Derek Cox
Tammy Hoffer
Terra Parrish
Thomas Hubble
Brad Knudson
Robert Meade
Carl Magnell
Robert Parrish
Michele Cook
Chris Block
Jody Young
John Charron
Arton Abordonado
Ronald Burns
Rocco Pergola

David Haupt
Edward Johnson
David Smith
Stephen Gulyas
Kevin Alan Sumner
Dayton Osborn
David Williams
Ted McGovern
Gary Williams
Jay Schmidt
Eric Coney
Robert Remy
Joshua Travis
Brandon Foy
Curtis Wolford
Michael Murphy
Brett Beeler
Jacob Inman
Cody Chiasson
Chad Lemaster



Family Traditions. When Airman First Class Eric Mieczynski was sworn into the Alaska Air National Guard, earlier this year, by his obviously proud father, Major Phil Mieczynski, commander of the 176th Maintenance Operations Flight at Kulis Air National Guard Base, he was becoming the third generation of his family to have served in America's Armed Services. His grandfather, Master Sergeant John J. Mieczynski, saw action during WWII with the 215th Glider Field Artillery Battalion.

Photo: Courtesy of 176th Wing Public Affairs

Warriors Training Schedule

Here are the inactive training dates for all Alaska Army and Air National Guard units. Dates for subordinate units are the same as their parent headquarters, unless otherwise indicated. All dates are subject to change. Most Alaska Army Guard units perform annual training (AT) through the winter.

| Alaska National Guard | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. |
|---|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Joint Forces Headquarters – Alaska (Air) | 14-15 | 4-5 | 2-3 |
| Joint Forces Headquarters – Alaska (Army) | 14-15 | 4-5 | 2-3 |
| Alaska Army National Guard | | | |
| 207th Infantry Brigade | 14-15 | 3-5 | 1-3 |
| 1/207th Aviation Regiment | 14-15 | 3-5 | 1-3 |
| 297th Support Battalion | 14-15 | 3-5 | 1-3 |
| Regional Training Institute | 14-15 | 3-5 | 1-3 |
| Alaska Air National Guard | | | |
| 168th Air Refueling Wing | 14-15 | 4-5 | 2-3 |
| 176th Wing | 14-15 | 4-5 | 2-3 |
| Alaska State Defense Force | | | |
| Headquarters | 21-22 | 18-19 | 16-17 |
| Academy | 21-22 | 18-19 | 16-17 |



NEW ARMY UNIVERSAL PRINT GORE-TEX® OUTERWEAR

BUILT TO ENDURE THE MOST BRUTAL CONDITIONS.



BATTLE TESTED

OFFICIAL
NSN ★ ISSUE



Propper™ now offers the official NSN issue Universal Camouflage 2nd Generation ECWCS Parka and Trousers made with GORE-TEX® fabric.

This parka and trouser combination is constructed of strong, durable and waterproof GORE-TEX® fabric. These garments offer the only n-IR image suppression technology which is durable for the life of the garment. These garments are windproof, breathable and have a moisture-wicking barrier for maximum comfort in even the harshest conditions. MADE IN USA

Orders can be placed directly through Propper International Sales or GSA.

For complete ordering information contact Propper International Sales or visit www.goremilitary.com.



Propper International Sales:

Phone: 866-296-9761

Fax: 877-296-9690

Email: fwp@propper.com

Web: www.propper.com

GSA:

www.gsaadvantage.gov

GSA Contract No: GS-07F-0228M

Model No: F7462 (Parka)

Model No: F7262 (Trousers)

www.1-800-GO-GUARD.com

SERVE AND PROTECT YOUR STATE & NATION

**BE A MILITARY POLICE
OFFICER WHILE YOU
EARN MONEY FOR
COLLEGE.**

**For more
information
contact your local
Army National Guard
representative at
1-800-478-2400**

NATIONAL 
GUARD

ALASKA

**Get up to
\$20,000
enlistment if
you qualify**

